THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

APPLICANTS: Torsten NIEDERDRANK et al ATTY. DOCKET NO.: P03,0226

SERIAL NO.: 10/603,026 CONFIRMATION NO.: 2603

FILED: June 24, 2003 GROUP ART UNIT: 2837

TITLE: "ACOUSTIC MODULE FOR A HEARING AID DEVICE"

MAIL STOP DD

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450A Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

OCT 3 1 2003

RADEMA

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

AA United States Patent No. 6,069,963

AB United States Patent No. 5,796,848

AC United States Patent No. 5,204,917

AL German PS 199 08 194

AM German OS 198 52 758

AN German OS 37 23 809

AO German OS 35 02 178

EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE

Reference AA corresponds to German OS 196 35 229 and Reference AB corresponds to German PS 195 45 760. Those references, together with all of the other references cited above, were identified and discussed at pages 1 and 2 of the present specification, and Applicants stand by the statements in the specification concerning the teachings of those references. English translations of the German

language references are not readily available to the Applicants, however, each of those references has an English language abstract attached thereto.

Additionally, the German counterpart to Reference AB, together with References AL, AN and AO were cited by the German Patent and Trademark Office during examination of the counterpart German Application.

Copies of each of the above references together with Form 1449 are submitted herewith.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application. This Information Disclosure Statement is therefore in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

(Reg. 28,982)

SCHIFF, HARDIN & WAITE CUSTOMER NO. 26574

Patent Department 6600 Sears Tower 233 South Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606 Telephone: 312/258-5790

Attorneys for Applicant.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on October 27, 2003.

STEVEN H. NOLL

Sheet 1 of 1

Form PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(use several sheets if necessary)

Docket No. Serial No. P03,0226 10/603,026 Applicant Torsten Niederdrank et al.

Group Art Unit Filing Date

| (use several sheets it necessary) | | | | | June 24, | June 24, 2003 | | 2837 | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------|----------------------------|------|--|
| - | | U.S | S. PATENT | DOCUMENTS | | | | - | |
| Examiner's Initials | | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If appropriate | | |
| | AA | 6,069,963 | 05/30/00 | Martin et al. | | | | | |
| | AB | 5,796,848 | 08/18/98 | Martin | | | | | |
| | AC | 5,204,917 | 04/20/93 | Arndt et al. | | | | | |
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| | | FORE | IGN PATE | NT DOCUMENT: | S | | | | |
| | | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation Yes No | | |
| | AL | 199 08 194 | 07/06/00 | Germany | | | | | |
| | AM | 198 52 758 | 05/25/00 | Germany | | | | | |
| | AN | 37 23 809 | 01/26/89 | Germany | | - 4 - T 111 | | | |
| | AO | 35 02 178 | 08/29/85 | Germany | | | | | |
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| Examiner | . | | Date Consi | dered | | | | | |

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.